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Diana T Fritz 02/06/2007 05:33:41 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

June 26, 2004

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 2096 - ROUTINE)
TAGS: PGOV, KDEM
Captions: None
Subject: UAE WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT POSSIBLY BY 2004-05
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 02096

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: POL
INFO: RSO PAO AMB DCM P/M ECON
Laser1:
INFO: PAO

DISSEMINATION: POL
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: CDA:RALBRIGHT
DRAFTED: POL:RBASSIL
CLEARED: POL:JFMAYBURY

VZCZCADI619
RR RUEHC RUEHZM
DE RUEHAD #2096 1781007
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 261007Z JUN 04
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4855
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 002096

SIPDIS

STATE FOR DRL, NEA/PI, AND NEA/ARP

E.O. 12958: DECL: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [KWMN](#) [KDEM](#) [TC](#)
SUBJECT: UAE WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT POSSIBLY BY 2004-05

REF: ABU DHABI 2034

¶1. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE UAE GENERAL WOMEN'S UNION, NOURA AL-SUWEIDI, TOLD POLCHIEF ON JUNE 21 THAT WOMEN COULD BE APPOINTED TO THE 40-MEMBER FEDERAL NATIONAL COUNCIL (FNC) DURING THE 2004-05 SESSION THAT BEGINS IN THE FALL. AL-SUWEIDI MENTIONED THAT A LIST OF WOMEN NOMINATED BY RULERS OF EACH EMIRATE HAS BEEN COMPILED AND SUBMITTED TO PRESIDENT SHAYKH ZAYED, WHO WILL REVIEW AND APPROVE THE NAMES. "WE WILL HAVE WOMEN IN THE PARLIAMENT IN THE NEXT SESSION, GOD WILLING," SHE SAID.

¶2. IN RECENT YEARS, SHAYKH ZAYED'S WIFE, SHAYKHA FATIMA, HAS CALLED PUBLICLY FOR THE RULERS OF EACH OF THE SEVEN EMIRATES AND THE FNC TO INCLUDE UAE WOMEN IN THE

POLITICAL PROCESS, INCLUDING APPOINTING THEM TO THE FNC. NOURA AL-SUWEIDI HAS HAD SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH THE FNC LEADERSHIP TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF OPENING UP THE PARLIAMENT MEMBERSHIP TO WOMEN. OUR FNC CONTACTS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THESE MEETINGS HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND HAVE BEEN FRUITFUL, BUT THEY DID NOT SAY THAT THERE WAS A SPECIFIC TIMEFRAME WHEN THEY EXPECTED WOMEN TO BE APPOINTED.

13. THE DISCUSSION WITH AL-SUWEIDI ALSO COVERED THE RECENTLY RELEASED TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT (SEE REFTTEL), AL-SUWEIDI'S PARTICIPATION IN THE MEPI "CAMPAIGN SCHOOL" IN DOHA LAST SPRING, AND A PLANNED INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE THAT THE GWU WILL SPONSOR. AL-SUWEIDI AND HER STAFF GAVE POLCHIEF, EMBASSY POLITICAL ASSISTANT, AND THE SECTION'S SUMMER INTERN, A COMPREHENSIVE TOUR OF THE GWU, THE PRE-EMINENT WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION IN THE UAE.

ALBRIGHT